

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

DECLARATION OF NON-ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 17(2)(a), Rules 13ter.1(c) and Rule 99)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P53566PC00	IMPORTANT DECLARATION	Date of mailing (day/month/year) 15/06/2001
International application No. PCT/NL 00/ 00419	International filing date (day/month/year) 15/06/2000	(Earliest) Priority date (day/month/year)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC G08F17/60		
Applicant CAREERFEVER B.V. et al.		

This International Searching Authority hereby declares, according to Article 17(2)(a), that no international search report will be established on the international application for the reasons indicated below

1. ☒ The subject matter of the international application relates to:

- a. ☐ scientific theories.
- b. ☐ mathematical theories
- c. ☐ plant varieties.
- d. ☐ animal varieties.
- e. ☐ essentially biological processes for the production of plants and animals, other than microbiological processes and the products of such processes.
- f. ☒ schemes, rules or methods of doing business.
- g. ☐ schemes, rules or methods of performing purely mental acts.
- h. ☐ schemes, rules or methods of playing games.
- i. ☐ methods for treatment of the human body by surgery or therapy.
- j. ☐ methods for treatment of the animal body by surgery or therapy.
- k. ☐ diagnostic methods practised on the human or animal body.
- l. ☐ mere presentations of information.
- m. ☐ computer programs for which this International Searching Authority is not equipped to search prior art.


2. ☐ The failure of the following parts of the international application to comply with prescribed requirements prevents a meaningful search from being carried out:

- ☐ the description ☐ the claims ☐ the drawings

3. ☐ The failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions prevents a meaningful search from being carried out:

- ☐ the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.
- ☐ the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

4. Further comments:

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Mar'a Rodríguez Nôvoa
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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 203

The subject-matter claimed in claim 8 falls under the provisions of Article 17(2)(a)(i) and Rule 39.1(iii), PCT, such subject-matter relating to a method of doing business.

Claims 1-7, 9 and 10 relate to a conventional system, program product and computer readable medium for performing the business method of claim 8. Although these claims do not literally belong to the method category, they essentially claim protection for the same commercial effect as the method claim. The International Searching Authority considers that searching this subject-matter would serve no useful purpose. It is not at present apparent how the subject-matter of the present claims may be considered defensible in any subsequent examination phase in front of the EPO as International Preliminary Examining Authority with regard to the provisions of Article 33(1) PCT (novelty, inventive step); see also Guidelines B-VII, 1-6).

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

1 1. An apparatus for supporting an application with a
2 company, comprising at least one processor, at least one
3 memory, input means for inputting information by a user and
4 display means for showing information to the user, the
5 apparatus being arranged for performing the following
6 steps:

- 7 • having the user select a company from a list of
8 predetermined companies;
- 9 • selecting a predetermined number of questions from a
10 list of career-oriented questions especially developed
11 for that company;
- 12 • presenting the selected career-oriented questions to
13 the user;
- 14 • receiving answers of the user to the career-oriented
15 questions;
- 16 • determining whether the user fits in with a career
17 associated with the company, and
 - 18 ♦ if so, sending personal data of the user to the
19 company, provided the user has given permission
20 to do so;
 - 21 ♦ if not, reporting to the user that he/she does
22 not fit in with a career associated with that
23 company.

1 2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 apparatus is arranged, in presenting the career-oriented
3 questions, to display an office space with a person, with
4 whom a virtual interview can be conducted.

1 3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 apparatus prior to the selection of a company, presents a
3 company selection test to the user, in which the apparatus
4 compares wishes and requirements in respect of a career as
5 received from the user with company profiles of a number of
6 companies and determines which of the company profiles fits
7 the wishes and requirements of the user best.

1 4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 apparatus can receive per company a first set of weighting
3 factors per career-oriented question and can have same
4 included in weighting when determining whether the user
5 fits in with any one of the careers associated with the
6 company.

1 5. An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein each
2 company selection test comprises several items and the
3 apparatus of the user can receive a second set of weighting
4 factors per item of the company selection test and can have
5 same included in weighting when determining which of the
6 company profiles fits the wishes and requirements of the
7 user best.

1 6. An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein each
2 company selection test comprises several items and the
3 apparatus can receive per company a third set of weighting
4 factors per item of the company selection test and can have
5 same included in weighting when determining which of the
6 company profiles fits the wishes and requirements of the
7 user best.

1 7. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
2 apparatus is arranged for showing to the user, prior to the
3 presentation of the career-oriented questions, a
4 representation of a central hall of an office building with
5 hyperlinks to websites of the predetermined companies.

1 8. A method for supporting an application with a company
2 via an apparatus comprising at least one processor, at
3 least one memory, input means for inputting information by
4 a user and display means for showing information to the
5 user, the method comprising the following steps:

- 6 • having the user select a company from a list of
7 predetermined companies;
- 8 • selecting a predetermined number of questions from a
9 list of career-oriented questions especially developed
10 for that company;
- 11 • presenting the selected career-oriented questions to
12 the user;
- 13 • receiving answers of the user to the career-oriented
14 questions;
- 15 • determining whether the user fits in with a career
16 associated with the company, and
 - 17 ♦ if so, sending personal data of the user to the
18 company, provided the user has given permission
19 to do so;
 - 20 ♦ if not, reporting to the user that he/she does
21 not fit in with a career associated with that
22 company.

1 9. A computer program product for supporting an
2 application with a company and which can be read by a
3 computer apparatus comprising at least one processor, at
4 least one memory, input means for inputting information by
5 a user and display means for showing information to the
6 user, the apparatus being arranged for performing the
7 following steps after the computer program product has been
8 read:

- 9 • having the user select a company from a list of
10 predetermined companies;
- 11 • selecting a predetermined number of questions from a
12 list of career-oriented questions especially developed
13 for that company;
- 14 • presenting the selected career-oriented questions to
15 the user;
- 16 • receiving answers of the user to the career-oriented
17 questions;
- 18 • determining whether the user fits in with a career
19 associated with the company, and
 - 20 ♦ if so, sending personal data of the user to the
21 company, provided the user has given permission
22 to do so;
 - 23 ♦ if not, reporting to the user that he/she does
24 not fit in with a career associated with that
25 company.

1 10. A data carrier provided with a computer program
2 product according to claim 9.

(CAREER1CLAIMS/102:ca)